

Sub
H₂Cent
G₁
and

26. (Amended) A method for producing a biochip comprising a plate comprising a plurality of spots comprising probes, the method comprising the following steps:

(a) providing a plate;
(b) providing a mixture of a binding agent and a probe, wherein the binding agent is capable of immobilizing the probe to the plate and the binding agent is not conjugated to the probe; and

(c) spotting the mixture to a plurality of positions on the plate, wherein the mixture is only spotted on an area of the biochip where a probe is desired to be immobilized, thereby producing a biochip comprising a plurality of spots comprising immobilized probes in which the binding agent and the probe are present only at desired portions of the surface and are not present on unspotted portions.

27. (Amended) The method of claim 25 or claim 26, wherein the mixture is spotted with a pin.

28. (Amended) The method of claim 25 or claim 26, wherein the mixture is spotted with a tube.

G₂

34. (Amended) The method of claim 25 or claim 26, wherein the mixture is suctioned by a pin or a tube and spotted with the pin or the tube on a plurality of positions on the biochip or the plate.

35. (Amended) The method of claim 25 or claim 26, wherein the mixture is carried by a tip of a pin or a tube and spotted with the pin or the tube on a plurality of positions on the biochip or the plate.

36. (Amended) The method of claim 25 or claim 26, wherein the mixture comprises a solution, and the solution is carried by surface tension by a tip of a pin or a tube and spotted with the pin or the tube on a plurality of positions on the biochip or the plate.

Please add the following new claims:

--37. (NEW) The method of claim 24, wherein the pin comprises a tip comprising at least one recess.

38. (NEW) The method of claim 24, wherein the probe or the binding agent is suctioned by the pin or the tube and spotted with the pin or the tube on a plurality of positions on the biochip or the plate.

39. (NEW) The method of claim 24, wherein the probe or the binding agent is carried by a tip of the pin or the tube and spotted with the pin or the tube on a plurality of positions on the biochip or the plate.

40. (NEW) The method of claim 24, wherein the probe or the binding agent comprises a solution, and the solution is carried by surface tension by a tip of the pin or the tube and spotted with the pin or the tube on a plurality of positions on the biochip or the plate.

41. (NEW) A method for producing a biochip comprising a plurality of spots comprising probes, the method comprising the following steps:

(a) providing a binding agent, wherein the binding agent is capable of immobilizing a probe to the biochip, and a probe;

(b) first spotting the binding agent to a plurality of positions on the biochip, wherein the binding agent is spotted with a pin or a tube and the binding agent is only provided on an area of the biochip where a probe is to be spotted, wherein the pin or the tube comprise a tip comprising at least one recess on the tip; and

(c) after the spotting of the binding agent in step (b), spotting a plurality of probes onto the positions spotted in step (b), wherein the plurality of probes are spotted with the pin or the tube, thereby producing a biochip comprising a plurality of spots comprising probes in which the probe is present only at positions on the biochip where the binding agent has been spotted and the binding agent is not present on the biochip where there is no probe.--